

1a. A method of halftoning for multi-pass image rendering, wherein different pixel locations are rendered in each pass, the method comprising restricting a substantial majority of the pixels turned on to render a tone at an image location defined by a plurality of pixels to the minimum number of passes required to produce the tone at the image location.

1b. A method of halftoning for multi-pass image rendering using N passes, wherein different pixel locations are rendered in each pass, the method comprising restricting a substantial majority of the pixels turned on to render a tone to the minimum number of passes required to produce the tone for N-pass printing.

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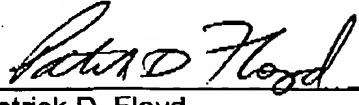
Atty. Dkt. No. A1160-US-NP  
XERZ 2 00445

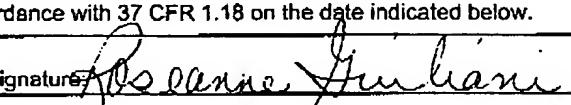
Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,  
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP

December 14, 2006

Date

  
Patrick D. Floyd  
Reg. No. 39,671  
1100 Superior Avenue, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2579  
(216) 861-5582

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